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It is good news, and authentic, that the printing of the Year Books is to be resumed. The work of supplementing and filling the gaps in the old Year Books had been carried on as far as the 15th Edw. III. in 1891. For some unexplained reason nothing has appeared since. But now Mr. Pike is to be allowed to resume his admirable work of editing; and it may be hoped that it will not be stopped again until we have not only the gaps all filled in the old books, but an edition of the black-letter volumes themselves which is worthy of their new companions.

ON November 27 last, a local historical society in Boston celebrated by an address at the Old South Church the six hundredth anniversary of the British Parliament summoned by Edward I. It is strange that the anniversary of an event of such importance in the history of popular government should have been so little recognized. The oration in Boston was by A. C. Goodell, Jr., the learned editor of the Province Laws. One hazards little in guessing that the chairman of the committee of arrangements for the Boston celebration, Prof. M. M. Bigelow, distinguished for many contributions to historical and legal knowledge, was the moving cause in this event. The exercises were introduced by a neat and appreciative short address by him.

THE address on Legal Education by the Lord Chief Justice of England, delivered in Lincoln's Inn Hall at the request of the Council of Legal Education on October 28 last, is a paper of first rate importance. It confesses to the full, with illustrations, the extremely poor condition of English legal education, as contrasted with what is found on the Continent and in this country, and urges the establishing of a great and worthy school of law. "Is it," asks Lord Russell in his closing words, "an idle dream to hope that even in our day and generation there may here arise a great school of law worthy of our time, — worthy of one of the first and noblest of human

sciences, to which, attracted by the fame of its teaching, students from all parts of the world may flock, and from which shall go forth men to practise, to teach, and to administer the law with a true and high ideal of the dignity of their mission?" Admirable words! To many of the lovers of England and English law, it has long been a wonder that this consummation is so long delayed. It is devoutly to be wished that Lord Russell may now press the matter to a conclusion; nothing would bring more benefit to the law of his country, or more honor to himself and the great office which he holds.

Lord Russell's specific proposition is the establishing by royal charter of "The Inns of Court School of Law." The governing body is to consist of thirty members, ten named by the Inns, ten by the Crown, one each by the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Chief Justice, and the Master of the Rolls, one each by the four Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, London, and Victoria, and three by the Incorporated Law Society. "I should confer on such a body the granting of academic distinctions, and I should commit to it in fullest confidence the settling of a scheme of preliminary examination, of systematic instruction, and of final tests of fitness for the profession of the law. . . . To the Inns of Court, I need hardly say, we must mainly look for the funds to carry on the work in worthy fashion. . . . In the existing system the annual expenditure amounts to some £7,000. If the lectures and classes are made attractive, I doubt whether any larger sum, or, at all events, any substantially larger sum, would be required to work the scheme which I advocate."

This is suggesting what would be equivalent here to an endowment of say \$1,000,000. The existing permanent endowment of the Harvard Law School is a little under \$250,000.

THE SELDEN SOCIETY. — The Selden Society has shown commendable energy in overcoming past delays in its publications, and the issue of the selection of Coroner's Rolls, edited by Dr. Gross of Harvard University, will bring them up to date. Advance sheets of this last are now at hand. From these it appears that the volume will be an interesting one, and a great aid to the study of the functions of the Coroner, and of the history of the decay of his office from the time that it was held only by landed knights elected by the shire (furnishing perhaps the machinery for sending later such knights to Parliament) up to the early falling into disrepute of the crown's quest law and the recent rather ridiculous position of the office.

The subjects of inquests afford peculiar scope for dramatic effects, to which the style of the verdicts lends itself. For example, one reads that "Margaret went with a certain jug of the value of one penny to draw water from the said well in the said close and by chance slipped and fell into the said well and sank, and ill is thought of no man for the death of the said Margaret." Any one interested in the old crimes and the old modes of trial will find much that is new in these Rolls. The Selden Society deserve all praise and support for their services to the history of the common law.

REFORM IN LAW REPORTING. — If Coke in his day lamented the existence of so many as fifteen volumes of reported decisions, what is to be said